

IHSA-82-032

15 JUL 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Information Systems Research Division, ORD

FROM:

[redacted]  
Information Handling Systems Architect

SUBJECT: Comments on Proposed Data Base Seminar

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1. The Background and Objectives portions of the attached memorandum are fine - the following are comments regarding the Seminar Description portion.

2. The first segment, consisting of only Agency personnel, may be precipitous with respect to the ability of users to contribute fully. Agency personnel, unfamiliar with the issues of data base encryption - distribution of keys, cost, DES, NSA availability and delivery of encryption gear, regulations and rules regarding the encryption of data - would find that the requirements expressed in the first meeting might not address the major issues in implementing a data encryption system. You might want to consider having three meetings as follows:

MEETING ONE: (Educational) - ORD distributes appropriate background literature - NSA briefs Agency personnel on status of data encryption and their current status. (It might also be helpful to demonstrate some off-the-shelf data encryption products that are available on micros or the IBM mainframes.)

MEETING TWO: (Requirements) - Agency personnel discuss their needs and suggested time frame for development. This may involve setting up prototype encrypted data bases on our mainframes as an interim planning step.

MEETING THREE: Vendors - Wang, etc - talk about their plans - ORD presents their proposed efforts in this area, encryption gear and delivery times.

3. [redacted] will be your point-of-contact on this staff, to work with you on this seminar. We currently anticipate having two or three attendees.

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cc:

[redacted] IHSA

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